NPS Form 10-900
OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Talbot Hall
Other names/site number: DHR No. 122-0030
Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing

2. Location

Street & number: 600 Talbot Hall Road/6601 Caroline Street/6651 Talbot Hall Court
City or town: Norfolk State: VA County: Independent City
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this _X_ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property _X_ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___national ___statewide _X_local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

__A __B _X_C __D

Julie V. Langan 12/15/15

Signature of certifying official/Title: **Date**

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action: 2-2-16

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:	X
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	X
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use
Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC: single dwelling
VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD, BRICK, STUCCO, ASPHALT

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Talbot Hall, addressed as both 600 Talbot Hall Road and 6651 Talbot Hall Court, is located on an almost half-acre parcel with several large trees, including two magnolias which date to the nineteenth-century and flank the two corners of the house's river side. The land in front of the house, facing the river, is undeveloped and retains the original view shed. The house was constructed by Samuel Butt Talbot ca.1799-1802 for his son, Thomas, as a summer escape from the City of Norfolk. The five-bay, Federal-style house was built on the edge of the Lafayette River with the land associated with the plantation eventually reaching approximately two thousand acres. The original dwelling was a two-and-a-half-story, central hall, brick house with two rooms on each floor and a hipped roof. This configuration remains intact today, with the interior layout of the earliest section the same as when constructed. A ca.1830 rear ell addition was added and the roofline was changed to a cross hip. Stucco was applied to the exterior likely in the mid-nineteenth century, when the original brick exterior began to deteriorate and also served to unify the older and newer sections of the house. The bricks were made on site from clay on the property with sand and oysters from the river forming the mortar. Plumbing and heating were installed ca.1921 with the arrival of Minton Talbot's new wife, and this likely dates the construction of the clapboard addition above the rear porch as well as the attachment of the kitchen to the main house. Recently the exterior has been clad in hard coat stucco as the nineteenth century coating was substantially deteriorated. The façade (river side) features fluted Doric columns and a full width one-story covered porch beneath which the historic brick foundation is visible. All of the historic window openings are intact, though some of the upstairs window sash has been replaced. The interior features, including historic woodwork, mantels, plasterwork, and doors, have been retained. In addition, an extraordinary

ca.1802 plaster relief seal of the United States is located over the parlor mantel. A plaster relief of the seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia was added to the dining room by Mrs. Minton Talbot ca.1921-25.

Narrative Description

Exterior

Foundation

Talbot Hall's foundation is brick. Foundation piers supporting the porch are covered in hard coat stucco, while sections of foundation underneath the porches are exposed, painted brick. Historic photographs show that the brick under the porches has always been left unparged. Beneath the porch piers, modern plastic lattice has been strung. The structure of the house consists of bricks made on site. These were later covered in stucco during the nineteenth century when the bricks began to deteriorate. This stucco deteriorated and was later covered in a hard coat stucco.

Chimneys & Roof

The house has four brick chimneys—two on the original structure, one on the 1830s addition, and a one-story chimney against the north wall of the kitchen addition. All chimneys are interior end chimneys and covered in hard coat stucco.

Historically, the main structure had a hipped roof, which turned into a cross-hip with the rear 1830 addition. The covering was wood shingle, which was later replaced with a slate roof. The kitchen addition has a gable roof which was clad standing seam metal. Currently, the dwelling has an asphalt shingle roof over the main portion as well as the kitchen addition and what appears to be a modern, light colored membrane roof over the kitchen connector. The roof over the front porch is tar and gravel. The dentiled cornice is intact along the roofline.

Porches

The house's porches are in moderate condition. The dwelling retains its original large, fluted Doric columns supporting the wide front porch, although it appears that some of the bases have been replaced due to wood rot.

The front porch deck is painted and in fair to moderate condition. The boards exhibit chipping paint and wood damage, are of uniform width, and are tongue and groove. The front porch ceiling may be original, as the boards are of uneven width and exhibit paint build up. The porch ceiling possesses an historic wood compass. The front porch railing dates to at least the early 1900s, as seen in historic photographs. The wood stairs are modern and deteriorating, and the stair rail is new plastic.

The rear porch is in fair condition and contains numerous modern elements. The painted wood decking is modern, as is the damaged turned balustrade. The painted brick stoop is not an appropriate width for the dwelling, and the plastic stair rail is obviously new. The porch ceiling is plaster with some significant damage, with rusted metal lath and the underside of interior floorboards visible through ceiling holes. The damage was caused by leaking plumbing in the second floor bathroom(s). A modern light fixture hangs from the porch ceiling.

The side porch, on the house's northern elevation, is in poor condition and constructed of entirely modern materials. The decking and the balustrade (where it still exists) match the modern components on the rear porch.

Exterior Woodwork

The house retains most of its exterior woodwork, with a large, dentiled cornice along the second floor roofline and smaller dentils edging the one-story roofs. The kitchen addition has no dentils, which, according to old photographs, is historically accurate. The kitchen connector and the enclosure above the rear porch both have paired, wooden pilaster detailing that is not evident anywhere else on the house. The dwelling's window trim is very simple, with rounded sills. In the limited sections of the house with vinyl siding, the window trim is obscured with prefinished metal cladding. The building's kitchen is composed of painted weatherboard covered in vinyl siding. The kitchen connector is composed of painted tongue-and-groove wood clad in modern vinyl siding. The enclosure above the rear porch has weatherboard walls, with boards approximately 4.5 inches in width, also covered with vinyl siding.

Windows

The first floor of the original house retains historic 9/9 double-hung wood sash windows, while the first floor of the 1830s addition has historic, 2/2 double-hung wood sash windows. The 2/2 sash were likely installed during a late nineteenth century renovation which included the addition of radiators and electricity. The upper floors of the building possess modern replacement vinyl windows; the second level has 6/6 windows, while dormers possess 4/4. The exception is a narrow, six-pane, historic window in a bathroom located in the enclosure above the rear porch. The kitchen possesses a variety of windows: two windows appear to be historic: a 6/6 window on the western wall of the kitchen connector and a Victorian-era 2/2 on the room's east wall. The western elevation, overlooking the river, possesses a large, 1950s window with a triplicate arrangement—two 1/1 windows flank a large, single large span of glass. Historic windows are wood; modern replacement windows are vinyl. All of the windows have exterior storms.

The two pedimented dormers are on the western, river side of the house and are aligned with the second and fourth bays. There is a matching dormer on the rear, south side, while its likely pair was eliminated when the 1830s addition abutted the house and created the cross-hip roof line.

Exterior Doors

The building retains its original front door, which is a four-panel, double-leaf, wood door with four lights, surmounted by a five-light transom and surrounded by a simple, wood-trim frame. The central door leading to the rear porch is also original. It is essentially a squatter version of the front door, without glass panes and transom. The rear door retains metal pockets appended to the sides of the entrance which likely were used to bar the door. No similar devices appear at the front door. Both doors appear to be in good condition, although there is some minor damage from the installation of modern hardware. Doors to the rear addition and the side kitchen area are modern.

<u>Interior</u>

Basement

The basement's first room is under the original portion of the house and is partially finished with modern materials. A painted brick support arch exists on the building's south wall, located directly underneath the right parlor fireplace for structural support. The walls in the room are a combination of painted brick (west wall), 1970s style wood veneer (south wall), and vinyl siding (east and north walls). The perimeter of the room's concrete floor is elevated; it has been speculated that this may be remnants of covered, abandoned cisterns. The ceilings retain their historic, hand-hewn joists, which have been painted. Between these historic joists are suspended modern acoustic tiles. On the room's western wall are two vent windows with modern etched glass; historic photographs reveal that these vents were once covered by grates with wooden slats. Wood shelves on the walls around the structural arch are modern, as is an inset wood shelf on the room's eastern wall. Behind this shelf is access to the crawlspace beneath the rear porch.

Room 2

The second basement room sits under the northern section of the original house. The floors in this room are also concrete with elevated edges. The walls are painted brick, and the ceiling is of unfinished, two-coat plaster. The ceiling is cracked in at least one location, likely from a leak, which has exposed the rusted metal lath beneath. A radiator on the north wall indicates that the basement was heated in the early 20th century along with the rest of the house. Two windows on the western wall have etched glass. Also in this room is another brick structural arch, installed beneath the chimney for increased support, which has been infilled with newer brick. A four-panel wood door leads to the 1830s basement room.

Room 3

The third room of the basement is underneath the dwelling's 1830s addition. The room has both exterior and interior access. The exterior door is a modern, single-panel, wood door, and the interior door is a six-panel, wood door with Victorian-era hardware which opens onto a wood stair covered with a carpet runner. The basement entry is accessed through the pantry hall off of the kitchen. The walls of the 1830s basement room are painted brick, and the floor is concrete. The ceiling is again two-coat, unfinished plaster; the lath underneath indicates that the ceiling was never bare.

First floor- Original House

Features original to the oldest section of the house include the heart pine wood floors with varied-width boards, the large, six-panel doors with mortise-and-tenon joints, the front and rear doors, the main staircase, and the two fireplace mantels in the parlor and dining room. The windows may or may not be original to the house; if original, they were modified with a Victorian era weight and pulley system. However, windows in the 1830s addition were replaced in the late nineteenth-century while these were not, lending support to an earlier date for the windows in the original house. Woodwork in this section of the house is also very likely original. The plaster crown molding is also original in both first floor rooms of the original house.

Parlor

The parlor of the house is the most decorative room in the house. The room has heart pine floors with boards of varied widths and a classic Federal, decorative fireplace mantel. The attenuated mantel features a starburst flanked by fluted Doric pilasters. The fireplace was updated with gas. The fireplace surround

appears to have been modernized with marble slabs in the first half of the twentieth century. A plaster, United States seal above the fireplace is original to the house; its seventeen stars indicate that it was installed ca.1803, when Ohio became the seventeenth state. The room's walls and ceilings are of plaster, with the ceiling exhibiting some minor cracking and water damage. There is original, elaborate, floral-motif, plaster crown molding.

The wood wainscoting in this room, and throughout the original first floor, would have been a very extravagant purchase at the time of its installation. The panels are not composed of individual boards nailed together to create a greater piece; instead, each wainscoting panel is whole, cut in single piece from a large tree. Other historic woodwork includes beveled door trim and paneled window surrounds with window seats. The door to the central hall is a large, painted, six-panel door, original to the house. Woodwork overall appears to be in excellent condition with limited paint peeling and minor water damage under one window, likely from an AC unit.

The radiators and lighting in the room are an early 20th century addition. There are HVAC grates cut into the floors.

Central Hall

The dwelling's main entrance has historic heart pine boards of uneven width; these are in good condition. The plaster walls and ceilings, as well as the wainscoting, mirror that which exists in the right parlor, although the trim in the entrance hall is beveled wood and much simpler. A floral plaster ceiling medallion serves as the centerpiece for a 20th century hanging light. The ceiling above the front entrance appears to be bulging; the nature of the damage could be moisture related and attributable to previously failed roof flashing and is not progressing. The ceiling also has beveled plaster crown molding. The front stair is historic, with a curved banister and simple rectangular posts. The stair is painted. The house's original front and rear doors access this room and are described above in the 'Exterior Doors' section. The hall has a single radiator in the southwestern corner as well as early 20th century light fixtures. A large modern air return grate has been cut into the historic stair wall.

Dining Room

The dining room has original heart pine floors with varied-width boards; these are in good condition. The parlor also has plaster walls and ceilings, as well as the painted wood wainscoting prevalent throughout the house's oldest section. The beveled plaster crown molding matches that of the central hall. The wood mantel in the dining room is slightly less ornate than the one in the more formal parlor, but of a similar design. The fireplace retains an historic slate hearth, but has a replacement fireplace surround of painted tile. The tiles are likely from the Victorian era, as exposed, unpainted edges reveal glazing typical of that time. The fireplace also has a decorative, Victorian-era fireplace cover. The plaster Virginia seal above the fireplace is not original to the house; it was added ca 1921-25 by the Talbot family as part of the renovation which included the modern bathrooms over the rear porch. The room has three doors. The door to the central hall is a large, painted, wood six-panel door original to the house which matches the door into the parlor. The door to the 1830s hall is historic, likely added at this date. The smaller closet door also appears to be historic—it is painted, wood, and four panel. The deep set, painted, paneled doorway to the kitchen does not possess a door. The room's three windows are 9/9 double-hung wood sash in good condition.

First Floor- 1830s Addition

Features believed original to the first floor of the 1830s addition include the heart pine floors however, unlike the original house, the boards here are all of a uniform width and run perpendicular to the boards in the original house, from east to west. The staircase, fireplace mantels (styled after those in the original two rooms), wainscoting and trim also likely date to the 1830s; the trim and wainscoting have a different profile than the woodwork in the original house.

Entrance Hall

The stair in the 1830s entrance hall is more decorative than that in the front hall. The balusters are thicker and beveled, and the banister is less round as compared to the older rail. On the 1830s stair, the risers have been painted but the treads are not. Other woodwork includes an historic painted built-in lower two-door corner cabinet near the exterior door. The walls have wainscoting save for on the rear wall, where plaster has been painted to look like wainscoting. There was once a door in this location; a trim frame can be seen in the hallway to the basement, directly on the other side.

Living Room

The living room is carpeted with the original wood floors beneath. The fireplace, located on the east wall, has a slate hearth and its original, 1830s mantel, a more restrained interpretation of the Federal-style mantels in the 18th century portion of the house. The fireplace has been modernized with an operable metal face. The room has no crown molding, but it does have wainscoting as well as beveled window and door trim. On the west wall is a large newer floor-to-ceiling cabinet/shelving unit. A closet in the northeastern corner of the room, next to the fireplace, has plank walls; the closet is original to this 1830s addition. Windows are covered with interior, two-panel, folding double-leaf shutters. There is no door to the room, although parts of an old, heavy duty, outdoor locking mechanism remain on the interior side of the doorway. The room has an early 20th century lighting fixture, as well as two radiators: one on the east wall and one on the north. There are grates cut into the floor for HVAC distribution.

Kitchen

The large size of the Talbot Hall kitchen is unusual. Since the different exterior wall materials of the kitchen connector and kitchen suggest the spaces were not built at the same time, it is possible that the connector was once an open porch, or was built specifically to link the separate kitchen building to the main house. It is also possible that an interior wall between the kitchen connector and the main kitchen was removed at some point, combining a butler's pantry and original kitchen space.

The kitchen appears in photographs (connected to the house) dating to ca.1922 but has been modernized in the last fifty years. The floors have a vinyl faux wood covering; however tongue and groove floorboards are visible from the crawlspace underneath the kitchen addition. The kitchen walls are covered in wallpaper, while the ceiling appears to be drywall with some water damage.

The room's wood trim is very simple. In the southwestern corner of the room, an older set of cabinets possibly dates to the original addition of the kitchen connector. The remainder of the cabinets are from the second half of the 20th century. The door leading into the pantry hall is a five-panel, wood door with Victorian-era hardware, topped by a wood transom panel.

The small, eastern hall off the kitchen has a beadboard wall, and a tall, built-in cabinet sits in the room's northwestern corner. There is a newer half bath off of this hall.

Second Floor- Original House

The second floor of the original house retains its original heart pine floors, mantels, central hall wainscoting, trim, and six-panel doors. Paneling around the windows also appears to be original. There is some minor surface damage to some areas of the flooring from use and a small leak.

Bedroom 1 (Southwest Bedroom)

The first bedroom sits overtop of the formal parlor; its fireplace retains its historic wood mantel, of simpler design than those downstairs. The slate hearth remains although the fireplace surround has been shrunk from its original size, parged and painted to accommodate coal. A Victorian-era, cast iron, horseshoe frame is present. The trim in the room is painted to look like wainscoting, but is actually a chair rail and a baseboard. The ceiling has a veneer of newer drywall and HVAC vents run from the attic. In the northeastern corner of the room, a large, built-in closet is not original but is built atop the floors without drywall and is easily removable; the historic floors are visible inside.

The entrance door to this bedroom is a large, painted, historic six-panel door identical to those on the first floor. A second door, on the room's eastern elevation, is a wood door with five horizontal panels, surmounted by a transom. This non-original doorway leads to the 20th century addition above the rear porch and was likely installed ca 1921. At this time, two windows would likely have been deleted from the room's east wall; one has an historic shelving system installed in the window opening.

Central Hall

The central hall on the second floor has heart pine floors characteristic of the oldest section of the house, with varied board width. The walls and ceiling are a combination of plaster and drywall. The room has painted wainscoting, but no crown molding. Minor damage is evident to the painted, historic stair banister.

There are two HVAC grates on the ceiling, and an early 20th century radiator sits in the southwestern corner.

Bedroom 2 (Northwest bedroom)

The room has varied-width heart pine floors with some patching evident. The wall material is a mix of plaster and drywall. This ceiling has also been resurfaced with drywall and has two HVAC vents from the attic. The fireplace retains its historic mantel and slate hearth, but, like the southwestern bedroom, the surround has been shrunk and then parged. A painted metal, horseshoe frame is also present, along with a parged fireplace cover. The room has its original six-panel door, leading from the ca 1800 historic hall, as well as a six-panel door accessing the closet in the room's northeastern corner. The closet door has Victorian hardware. A third six-panel door of mortise and tenon construction leads to the 1830s hall. The room has no crown molding, but it does have a painted chair rail and baseboards that span the room.

Second Floor- 1830s Addition

Original to the 1830s addition are the east-west oriented heart pine floors of uniform width, the fireplace mantel in the eastern bedroom, and the trim, which has a different profile than that which lines the original structure. The trim in the eastern bedroom is much simpler than what appears in the 1830s dining room downstairs, constructed at the same time.

Hall

The floors are east-west oriented with heart-pine boards. The walls and ceilings appear to be a combination of plaster and drywall (the drywall partition separates the landing from the hall bathroom.)

Bedroom 3 (East bedroom)

The third bedroom has east-west oriented heart pine floors. The walls are also a mix of plaster and drywall with a drywall veneer on the ceiling. The fireplace surround is of painted brick and retains its historic mantel, which is slightly differentiated from the one downstairs in the 1830s dining room. The room possesses two, six-panel doors; one services a closet in the northeast corner of the room. Both possess Victorian hardware. There is one radiator, in the northeast corner

Second Floor- 20th Century Addition (Above Rear Porch)

This 20th century addition was likely added ca 1921 with the purpose of installing plumbing to the house for the first time. The rear porch addition has interior walls that are a combination of plaster and drywall.

Hall

The hall services the nursery, closet, and bathroom off of the southwest bedroom. It is carpeted and accessed by a Victorian-era, five-panel, wood door surmounted by a transom.

Nursery

This small room at the house's southeast corner has north-south oriented, uniform width, wood floors and plaster walls and ceiling. Its entrance is a Victorian-era, five-panel, wood door surmounted by an operable transom with a painted glass window. The woodwork is simple—only baseboards, window trim, and a built-in bookshelf in the room's western wall in the historic window opening. A six-panel door provides access to the closet. On the south wall of the room, a radiator sits beneath the window.

Closet

Baseboards line the wood floor, of uniform width and oriented north-south. A six-panel door provides access.

Bathroom off Bedroom 1

The bathroom off of the southwest bedroom appears to possess mostly modern materials. The tiles, appliances, cabinetry, fixtures, and wallpaper are all modern. The doorway is surmounted by a painted transom.

Bathroom off 1830s Stairwell

This modern bathroom has tile, wallpaper, and an old window (6/6, with narrow panes). The door is a five-panel, wood Victorian door. Fixtures are all modern.

Third Floor attic- Original Structure

Heart pine floors with varied-width boards are original, as are plank doors providing access to the two original rooms. Walls and ceiling are historic lath and plaster with some cracking and a few holes. There is exposed duct on some areas of the floor serving the rooms below. The southwest room has two dormers with deep sills. The northwest room has one dormer facing west as well as an early twentieth century sink. The landing between the two original attic rooms has built-in historic cabinets along the back wall.

Third Floor- 1830s Addition

The landing and east room have wide, heart pine floors of a more uniform width. The walls are also historic plaster with similar condition issues as seen in the original section of the attic. There are also historic cabinets built into this landing. There is a single dormer in the east room. The room is accessed by a four-panel door with missing hardware.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [ ] A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [x] C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply.)

- [ ] A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- [ ] B. Removed from its original location
- [ ] C. A birthplace or grave
- [ ] D. A cemetery
- [ ] E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- [ ] F. A commemorative property
- [ ] G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1802-1954

Significant Dates
Ca. 1802
Ca. 1830
Ca. 1921
1954

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Talbot, Samuel Butt – original owner, builder

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Talbot Hall has a more than 150-year association with the locally prominent Talbot family, which occupied the dwelling from its plantation era through the era of twentieth-century suburbanization. Of several Talbot family properties at one time in Norfolk, Talbot Hall is the dwelling longest occupied by the Talbot family. The property also represents one of only three early American houses left in Norfolk which were formerly plantations outside the city proper, and it is one of only ten dwellings in Norfolk from the ca. 1800 period and earlier. The interior wood and plaster work are of high quality, in good condition, with strong integrity and are a rare and important example of craftsmanship within Norfolk and the surrounding area. The period of significance for Talbot Hall begins with its construction ca. 1802 and ends in 1954, when the property was transferred to the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia. This house is significant at the local level under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for the rarity of the resource type within the City of Norfolk as well as its notable interior features, including a unique pair of decorative plaster seals adorning the two ca. 1802 mantels.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The land surrounding Talbot Hall, over eight hundred acres, was purchased in 1774 by Thomas Talbot and was originally part of the Langley estate which was granted by the King in 1675.[1] The estate would eventually reach approximately two thousand acres. Talbot Hall was begun by Salmon Butt Talbot in 1799 as a summer country residence for his son, Thomas Talbot. He died that same year but left money in his will to complete the house which Thomas Talbot did ca.1802. The exact date of completion is not known, however the plaster relief of the United States seal puts a likely completion date at the end of 1802. The seal has seventeen stars, one for each state, and Ohio was admitted to the Union as the seventeenth state on November 29, 1802.[2] Three different versions of the same story claim that the presence of the U.S. seal kept Union soldiers from ransacking or burning the house during the Civil War. The progression of the property ownership after completion of the house was from Thomas Talbot to William Henry Talbot in 1838, to another Thomas Talbot in 1884, and to Minton Talbot in 1932.[3]

The house has been called a "perfect Georgian-Style"[4] house with a rectangle base containing two rooms on each level and five box-seated windows across the front, though current evaluations determine it to be a Federal-style house with late Georgian influence. The house was built on a north-south and east-west axis and a compass was later painted on the porch ceiling showing the river due west. It was constructed of bricks made on site using clay from the yard as well as sand and shells from the river. At some point, around the mid-nineteenth century, the bricks began to deteriorate and a thick stucco was applied to the exterior. The interior plaster was also made on site and a later repair revealed it to be about two inches thick and matted with pigs' hair.[5] Other typical Georgian/Federal features of the house are pedimented dormers, the hipped roof with interior end chimneys, the shallow dentiled cornice, the single 9/9 double-hung wood sash, and the wood paneled door with multi-light transom. The first floor ceilings are eleven feet high and the walls a foot thick and the two main rooms on each level of the original house are divided by a large, central hall. The full width, one-story porch, with fluted Doric columns, seems a natural result of the site overlooking a large river. The ca 1830 rear ell addition resulted in the creation of a cross-hip roof, the removal of a rear dormer, and the truncation of the rear porch, which also ran the width of the house, matching the front porch.

Minton Talbot died on March 28, 1950 at Talbot Hall where he was born in 1868. He earned a law degree from the University of Virginia and practiced the law in Norfolk until the last year of his life. It was Minton Talbot who oversaw the more recent changes to the property including the addition of plumbing, radiator heating, electricity, and a peeping device on the back door. He was married to Miss Cornelia Brackenridge in 1921 and moved from his house at 325 West Freemason Street back to Talbot Hall at that time. He and Mrs. Brackenridge met on a South American cruise. She was an artist and had the Virginia seal cast and installed over the dining room mantel. During his lifetime paint was never used on the walls of the house, only white wash, and the floors were rubbed with a mixture of gasoline and paraffin. The development of several nearby neighborhoods stemmed from the sale of most of his plantation during his lifetime as a result of tax debts and failed investments during the Great Depression. His daughter Carol described a typical scenario during the development of Talbot Park where a lot would be sold for $1,000 which would be split $100 for the broker, $600 for back taxes, and $300 to her father. Minton Talbot was an enthusiastic horticulturalist and many of the old trees in the neighborhoods derived from the Talbot estate were donated and/or planted by him. Mrs. William F. (Caroline) Talbot Egelhoff inherited Talbot Hall and was the last owner before passing it to the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia in 1954.[6]

The Talbot family had a long and close relationship with the Lindsay family. Harvey L. Lindsay, Sr. was instrumental in helping the Talbot family work through financial difficulties while keeping their cherished Talbot Hall house. Mr. Lindsay acquired much of the land formerly associated with Talbot Hall, then designed and developed the neighborhoods of Talbot Park and Belvedere to be model suburban communities. The Belvedere Corporation, run by Harvey L. Lindsay, Sr., was chartered on January 14, 1937. The neighborhood plat was recorded in February 1937. Thurmer Hoggard, Jr., a little known Norfolk architect, designed a handful of house types for the Belvedere neighborhood. The Belvedere houses were constructed by Meyer & Whitehall, and were typically built for approximately $5,000. In addition to fully appointed houses, the neighborhood received lush landscaping with narrow curving drives; it was devoid of sidewalks. The neighborhood of Talbot Park developed incrementally, thus exhibiting a wide array of housing types and styles spanning a longer period of construction than Belvedere. Building permits from 1936 and 1937 show a large span in house prices in the Talbot Park neighborhood, with smaller houses selling for around $3,000 and waterfront property priced at up to $10,000. The Talbot Park neighborhood was developed with an eye to green space for families; lots were spacious, and a park was proposed to provide an area for the local children to play out of the streets. The neighborhood proved a desirable one, quickly increasing in size. By 1942, there had been nearly 1,500 buildings constructed in Talbot Park, Belvedere, and surrounding areas, with 1,000 more on the horizon. Although Talbot Park was primarily a residential development, the neighborhood became house to numerous churches as well as Granby High and Elementary Schools and Depaul Hospital.[7]

There are only two other comparable houses in the City of Norfolk. Poplar Hall (ca.1760, VDHR # 122-0045, NR) is a five-bay, two-story Flemish bond brick Georgian dwelling with interior end chimneys, much like Talbot Hall, though without a stucco covering. Also like Talbot Hall, it sits on a one acre site which was once part of a much larger estate. The entry portico has replacement columns, there are 1860, 1955, and 1980s additions on one side, and it retains a largely intact, core central-hall interior plan and finishes. The Talbot-Cocke House (ca.1780, VDHR # 122-0111) is another house of the Talbot family which was part of another plantation of approximately 1000 acres across what was Tanner's Creek from Talbot Hall. This house has many similarities to Talbot Hall: two-story, five-bay brick masonry covered in stucco, hipped roof. The exterior has had two major alterations since its construction as compared to a ca.1900 photograph: a large, pedimented dormer with lunette window was installed above the central three bays and a three-bay wide, single-story porch has been removed and replaced with a single-bay,

one-story, Colonial Revival-style portico. There are also three twentieth century additions to the house off of the two sides and rear.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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"Demand Is Made for Grammar School in Talbot Park Area," *The Ledger-Star*, July 4, 1942.

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"Minton Talbot, 81, Land Owner, Dies," *The Virginian-Pilot*, March 29, 1950.

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"Talbot Hall," *The Virginian-Pilot*, June 26, 1940.

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Talbot, Minton W., *Letter to Mary Elizabeth Sanders*. Norfolk, VA: June 15, 1944.

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Taliaferro, Georgianna, "Talbot Hall, 8 ½ Acres of Land Given to Episcopal Diocese," *The Virginian-Pilot*, February 10, 1954.

Wallace, Julia. "Talbot Would Be Proud of Namesake," *The Norfolk Compass*, October 11, 1979.

Wright, Ann, "If Walls Could Talk/200-Year-Old Talbot Hall Is Among The Highlights Of Norfolk Garden Tour," *The Virginian-Pilot*, April 11, 2004.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
____ previously listed in the National Register
____ previously determined eligible by the National Register
____ designated a National Historic Landmark
____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

_X__ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
_X__ Other
Name of repository: Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA; Norfolk Public Library, Sargeant Memorial Room, Norfolk, VA

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): DHR No. 122-0030

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property ___.42_____

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 36.903413 Longitude: -76.287144

2. Latitude: Longitude:

3. Latitude: Longitude:

4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or
UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☐ NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)
The .42-acre parcel is bounded by Talbot Hall Crescent to the north, Talbot Hall Road to the east, and Talbot Hall Court to the south, and separate parcels to the south and west. The parcel is represented by metes and bounds from the southwest pin north 128.43', 195.44' east along Talbot Hall Crescent, 39.73 west along Talbot Hall Road, 73.87 southwest along Talbot Hall Court, 20' S56 degrees 04'04" E and 88.78 N88 degrees 47;37" E.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)
The boundary consists of the historic setting and all known historic resources associated with the original manor house known as Talbot Hall, and coincides with the property's current tax parcel boundary.

---

11. Form Prepared By
name/title: Marcus R Pollard
organization: Commonwealth Preservation Group
street & number: PO Box 11083
city or town: Norfolk state: VA zip code: 23517
e-mail: marcus@commonwealthpreservationgroup.com
telephone: 757-651-0494
date: 9/25/2015

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Talbot Hall
City or Vicinity: City of Norfolk
County: N/A State: Virginia
Photographer: Marcus Pollard
Date Photographed: April, 2014, May 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 16: West elevation, façade; facing east. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0001.

2 of 16: South elevation, facing north. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0002.

3 of 16: East elevation, facing west. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0003.

4 of 16: NW Oblique, facing SE. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0004.

5 of 16: Central Hall, facing west. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0005.

6 of 16: Central Hall, facing east. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0006.

7 of 16: Parlor, facing south. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0007.

8 of 16: Plaster relief of U.S. seal, parlor. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0008.

9 of 16: Dining room, facing north. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0009.

10 of 16: Plaster relief of Virginia seal, dining room. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0010.

11 of 16: Landing, second story, facing west. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0011.

12 of 16: South bedroom, facing south. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0012.

13 of 16: North bedroom, facing north. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0013.

14 of 16: Stair, hall of addition, facing north. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0014.

15 of 16: Living room, first floor of addition, facing east. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0015.

16 of 16: East bedroom, second floor of addition, facing east. VA_NorfolkCity_TalbotHall_0016.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

ENDNOTES

[1] Col. William H. Stewart, History of Norfolk County, Virginia and Representative Citizens, Chicago, IL: 1902, p.25; June Gray, "A Venerable Hall Joins the Church," *The Virginian-Pilot*, January 19, 1969, p.G-1.
[2] Stewart, History of Norfolk County, p.25-26; Gray, "A Venerable Hall", p.G-1
[3] "Talbot Hall," *The Virginian-Pilot*, June 26, 1940.
[4] Gray, "A Venerable Hall Joins the Church," p.G-6.
[5] Stewart, History of Norfolk County, p.25; Georgianna Taliaferro, "Talbot Hall, 8 ½ Acres of Land Given to Episcopal Diocese," *The Virginian-Pilot*, February 10, 1954; Gray, "A Venerable Hall."
[6] "Minton Talbot Dies; Lawyer, Landowner," *The Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch*, March 28, 1950; "Minton W. Talbot Funeral To Be Held Thursday at 3," *Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch*, March 29, 1950; "Minton Talbot, 81, Land Owner, Dies," *The Virginian-Pilot*, March 29, 1950; Gray, "A Venerable Hall;" Ann Wright, "If Walls Could Talk/200-Year-Old Talbot hall is Among the Highlights of Norfolk Garden Tour," *The Virginian-Pilot*, April 11, 2004.
[7] "Demand Is Made for Grammar School in Talbot Park Area," *The Ledger-Star*, July 4, 1942; "New Subdivision To Be Developed," *The Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch*, November 1, 1940; "Peters Plans 5 New Houses." *The Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch*, June 26, 1937; "Talbot Park Agents Busy," *The Norfolk Ledger Dispatch*, March 13, 1937; "Talbot Tract is Sold by Insurance Company in Development Plan," *The Virginian-Pilot*, January 16, 1937; Wallace, Julia. "Talbot Would Be Proud of Namesake," *The Norfolk Compass*, October 11, 1979.

Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources

V-CRIS

Virginia Cultural Resource Information System

LOCATION MAP
Talbot Hall
City of Norfolk, VA
DHR No. 122-0030
Location Coordinates:
Latitude: 36.903413
Longitude: -76.287144

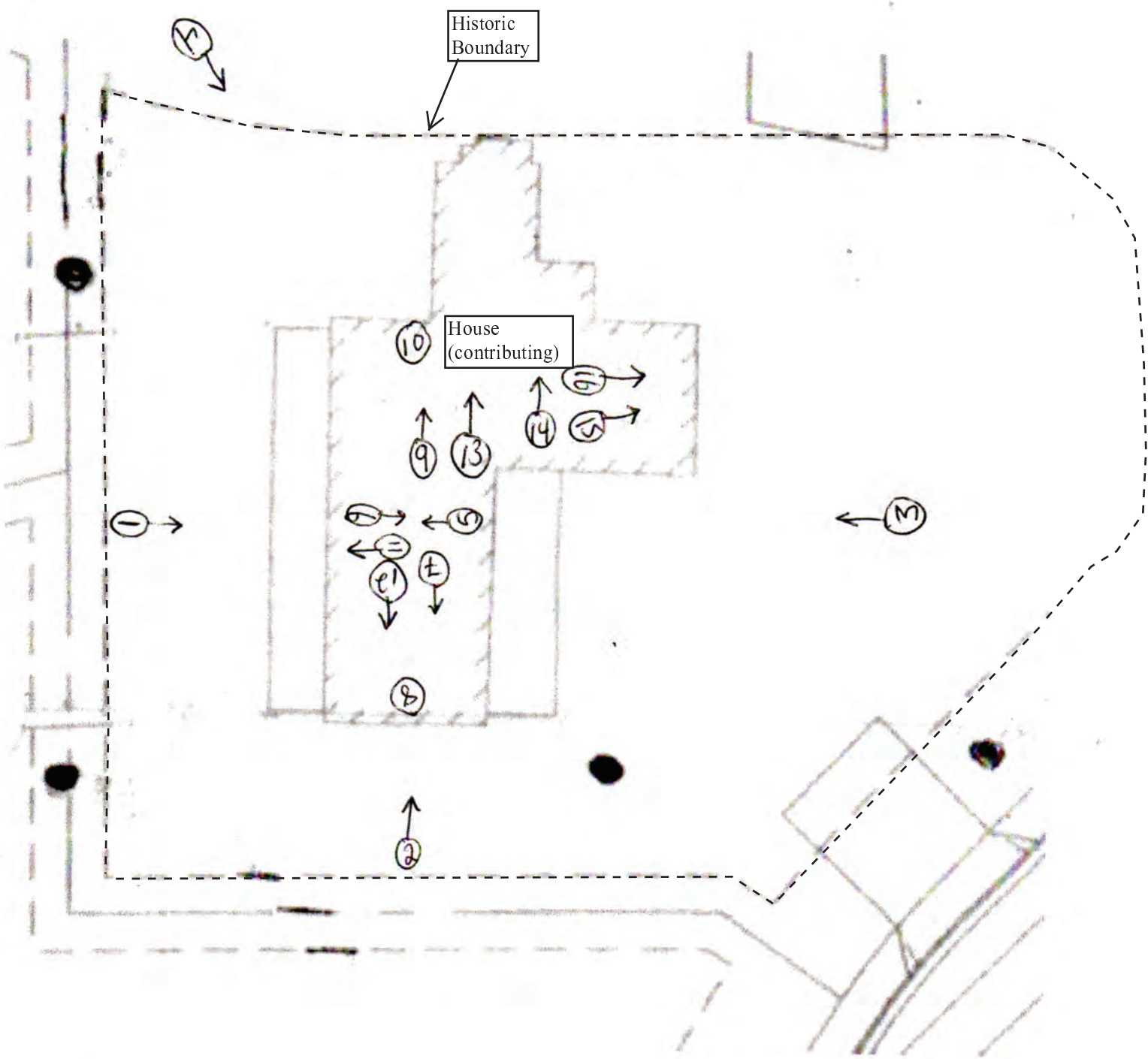
N

Feet
0 50 100 150 200
1:2,257 / 1"=188 Feet

Title: Talbot Hall **Date: 10/21/2015**

DISCLAIMER:Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions.The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.

Notice if AE sites:Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.



N

Not to Scale

SKETCH MAP/ PHOTO KEY
Talbot Hall
City of Norfolk, VA
DHR No. 122-0030

E PLURIBUS UNUM

SIC SEMPER TYRANNIS